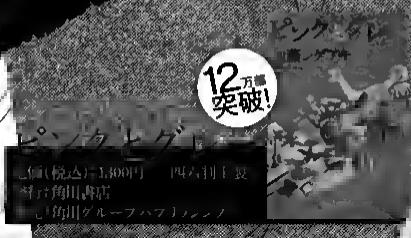
NEWS' KATO SHIGEAKI'S SHOCKING DEBUT WORK!!
THE LONG-AWAITED COMIC VERSION

COMIC, VOLUME 1, DEC 26 WEDNESDAY, WILL BE ON SALE!!

THE MORE THAT I THINK ABOUT YOU.

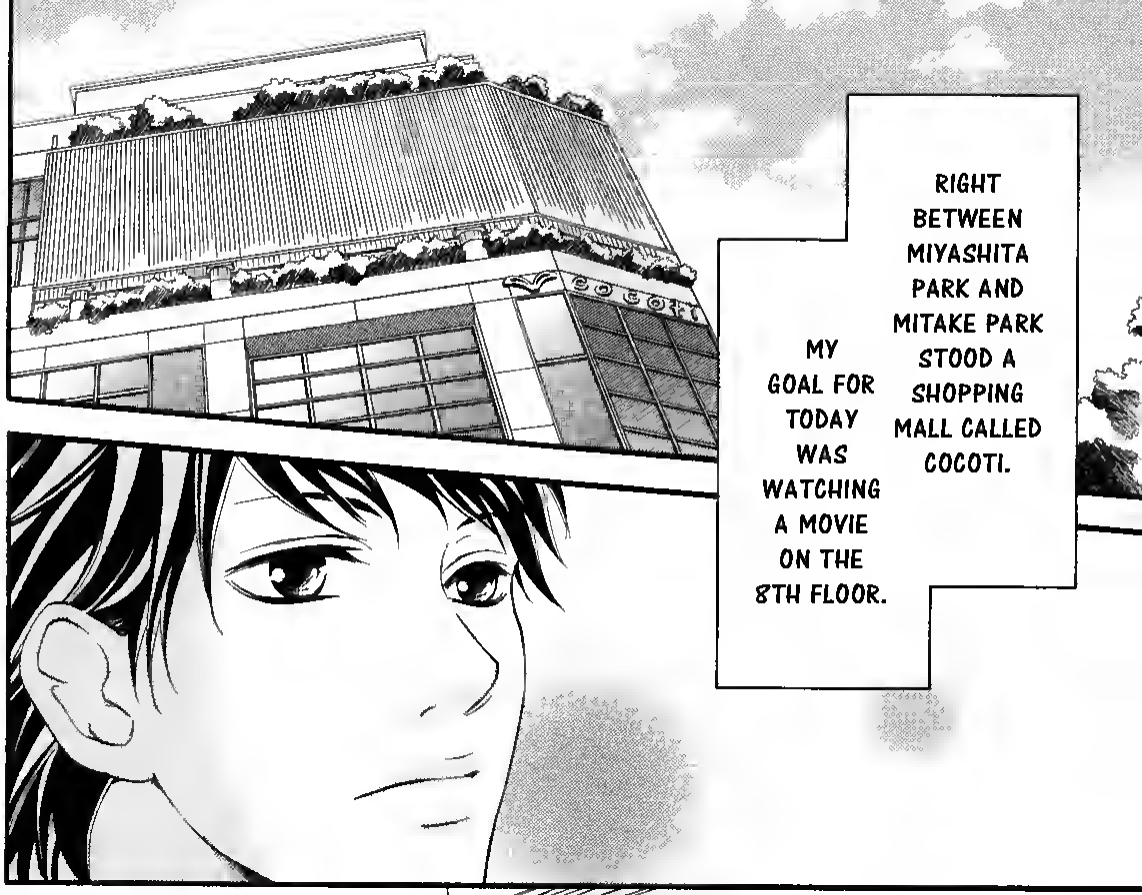
A GAP GROWS BETWEEN THE IDEALIZATIONS AND REALITY



CHAPTER 4: BEER
第四章 ビール

ピンクとグレー

原作：加藤シゲアキ（NEWS） 作画：藤崎みお


RIGHT BETWEEN MIYASHITA PARK AND MITAKE PARK STOOD A SHOPPING MALL CALLED COCOTI.
MY GOAL FOR TODAY WAS WATCHING A MOVIE ON THE 8TH FLOOR.

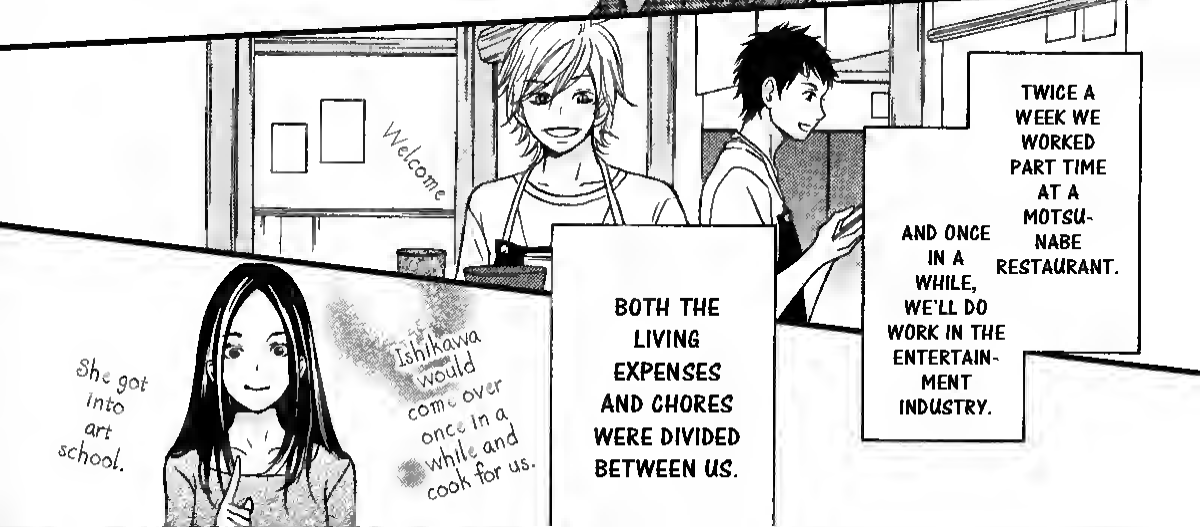
1 TICKET FOR "WINNER".
THE SEATS ARE GETTING FILLED UP, WE HAVE SEAT NUMBER 15 IN AISLE L OR...
AS LONG AS IT'S A SEAT IN THE BACK, I DON'T MIND WHERE IT IS.
WHY ARE THERE THIS MANY PEOPLE ON A WEEKDAY AFTERNOON.

THE SCRIPT WAS FULL OF CLICHÉS, THE JOKES WERE BORING, AND THE STORY WAS ALL OVER THE PLACE.
THIS WORK PORTRAYED ONE MAN'S SUCCESS AND FAILURE AS A SINGER.
THE WAY THEY EDITED IT, DIDN'T DO HIM JUSTICE.
BASED ON A NOVEL? YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME.
SNIFFLE
THE MORE GOCCHI LAUGHED ON SCREEN,
THE MORE EXPRESSIONLESS I BECAME.
HOW CAN YOU CRY WATCHING A MOVIE LIKE THIS?

AFTER GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL
WE ENTERED UNIVERSITY AND FOLLOWING AKAGI-SAN'S ADVICE, WE SIGNED ONTO A TALENT AGENCY CONTRACT.
YOU GUYS ARE GREAT!!
WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US.
BUT IT WAS STILL A SMALL AGENCY AND MUCH OF THEIR WORK WAS AS AN EXTRA,
BUT FOR US THAT WAS BETTER.
RIGHT, I HAVE GOOD TASTE.
I'LL MAKE YOU BOTH FAMOUS.
Ha ha ha
I DON'T WANT TO BE.
WELL, IT'LL HELP US WITH OUR RENT.
WHISPER
TRUE

SO, AS FOR WHAT YOU'LL BE DOING, I'LL LET YOU KNOW AS I FIND OUT.
BOTH OF YOU, BETTER WORK HARD!
PRESIDENT & CEO,
KOIDEMIZU
SO YOU SAID YOU WERE LIVING TOGETHER, RIGHT?
YES
THE FIRST AND SECOND YEAR OF UNIVERSITY IS AT THE FUCHINOBE CAMPUS SO WE'RE SHARING A PLACE NEARBY.
CONTRACT

GOING TO SCHOOL TOGETHER, THEN GOING TO OUR OWN CLASSES.
LIVING TOGETHER WAS FULL OF NEW EXPERIENCES AND IT WAS FUN.


Welcome
TWICE A WEEK WE WORKED PART TIME AT A MOTSU-NABE RESTAURANT.
AND ONCE IN A WHILE, WE'LL DO WORK IN THE ENTERTAIN-MENT INDUSTRY.
BOTH THE LIVING EXPENSES AND CHORES WERE DIVIDED BETWEEN US.
She got into art school.
Ishikawa would come over once in a while and cook for us.

It's summer break.
Freedom~
AH~
THE SCHEDULED EXAMS ARE OVER~
Finally.
STARTING TOMORROW, FOR FOUR DAYS WE HAVE 2 HOURS OF EXTRA WORK ON A DRAMA.
THEY SAID SINCE IT'S A SCHOOL DRAMA, THEY'LL PREPARE THE COSTUMES FOR US.
THOUGH WE WERE BUSY, WE WEREN'T UNHAPPY ABOUT ANYTHING.
THE FIRST 2 DAYS WERE THE SAME AS USUAL.
BUT THE THIRD DAY WAS A BIT DIFFERENT.
EVERYONE WHO IS AN EXTRA, PLEASE TURN YOUR HEAD WHEN THE MAIN ACTOR PASSES BY.
ALRIGHT, WE'RE GONNA START REHEARSALS.
DIRECTOR, CAN I HAVE A MINUTE WITH YOU?
WHAT'S THAT ABOUT? IS HE THE LEAD?

SINCE IT'S RIGHT AFTER THIS SCENE, I THINK IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF I QUESTION THE STUDENTS INSTEAD OF JUST RUNNING BY.
I SEE, ALRIGHT, WE'LL ACTUALLY DO IT AND SEE.
WE'RE STARTING REHEARSALS AGAIN.
.....
DASH
DID YOU SEE IIJIMA?
NOPE.
DID YOU SEE IIJIMA?
NOPE.
GRASP

DID YOU SEE IIJIMA!
HE RAN IN THAT DIRECTION EARLIER.
!!
!
...I SEE. THANKS.
RUNS
OKAY, LET'S GO WITH THIS ONE.
WE'LL ADD IN MORE CUTS AND WE'LL DO A CLOSE UP OF THAT EXTRA'S PART.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?
WE'RE FINISHED THE CAMERA CHECK.
IT'S SHOW TIME.
HIS IMPROVISATION CHANGED THE OUTCOME?
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT TODAY...
GOOD WORK!
LET'S EAT SOMEWHERE BEFORE WE HEAD HOME.
SURE

CLICK
YUP
IT ACTUALLY WENT BY REALLY FAST.
I GUESS TODAY IS THE LAST DAY ON THIS SET.
!!
YOU'RE INTERESTING.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
CLATTER

THANK YOU, HUH.
HOW COME YOU DECIDED TO IMPROVISE INSTEAD OF JUST SAYING "I DON'T KNOW" YESTERDAY?
SINCE IT WAS SO SUDDEN, I WASN'T REALLY THINKING.
WELL IF YOU WEREN'T THINKING THEN IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN LIKE THAT.
.....
WELL I DID FIGURE THAT ANYTHING WOULD WORK AS LONG AS THE LEAD ACTOR RAN TOWARDS THE CAMERA.
SO IF I POINTED IN THAT DIRECTION AND SAID, "HE WENT THAT WAY," IT WOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM.

I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING NO ONE ELSE DID.
.....!
SORRY FOR SOUNDING SO PRETENTIOUS.
Haha
YOU'RE REALLY SOMETHING. SO INTERESTING.

"NOT DOING IT IS NOT AN OPTION." THAT'S HOW YOU ALWAYS WERE.
HERE IT IS, HERE IT IS.
IT'S ALMOST THAT HALLWAY SCENE.
THIS IS KINDA EMBARRASS-ING.
HE RAN IN THAT DIRECTION EARLIER.
Whoa
WOW GOCCHI YOU'RE ON TV!
Wow
PAT
PAT

THUMP
THIS IS THE FIRST AND THE LAST TIME.
14
IT DEFINITELY WON'T BE THE LAST.
.....
BUT EVEN SO
WHEN GOCCHI APPEARED ON SCREEN,
I WAS DEFINITELY HAPPY.
THUMP
THUMP
A PART OF ME FELT CRUSHED.

RIVA-CHAN, CAN YOU PUT MY CUP IN THE SINK, I'LL WASH IT LATER.
NO, I'LL JUST DO IT.
REALLY?
FLUSH
POUR
BUT
BECOMING A CELEBRITY AND BECOMING FAMOUS WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION.
OKAY
THIS DRAMA WASN'T THAT INTERESTING HUH.
I'M TIRED SO I'M GOING TO SLEEP.
GOCCHI MIGHT'VE BEEN LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD THAN ME.
SLAM

THIS WILL BE YOUR OFFICIAL DEBUT AS AN ACTOR.
YOU HAVE TO DECIDE ON A NAME TO USE AS AN ACTOR BY TOMORROW.
THIS TIME YOU'RE NOT AN EXTRA.
YOU'VE BEEN GIVEN A ROLE IN A FALL DRAMA.
SUZUKI, THE PROGRAM PRODUCER SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.
... OH ...
His name is Tsuruta!
SO HE WAS A PROGRAM PRODUCER.
You're interesting

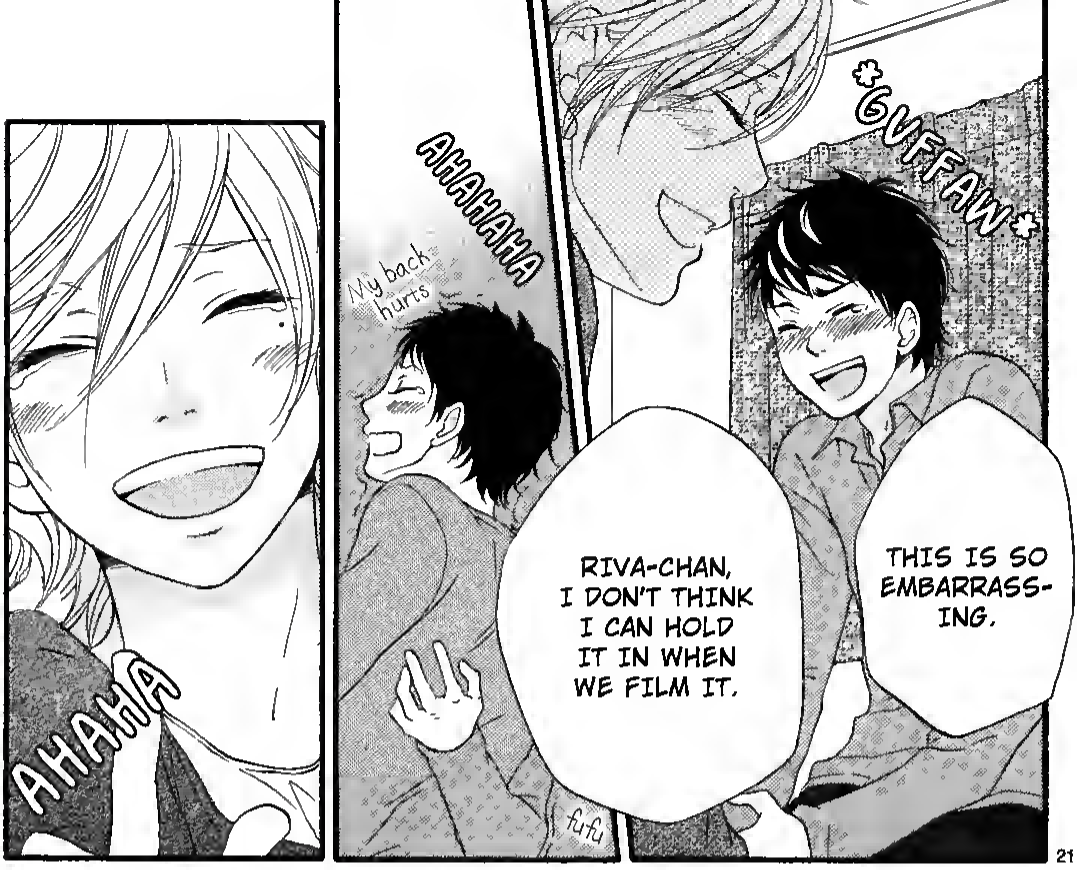
BECAUSE OF GOCCHI, I RECEIVED A SMALL ROLE AS WELL.

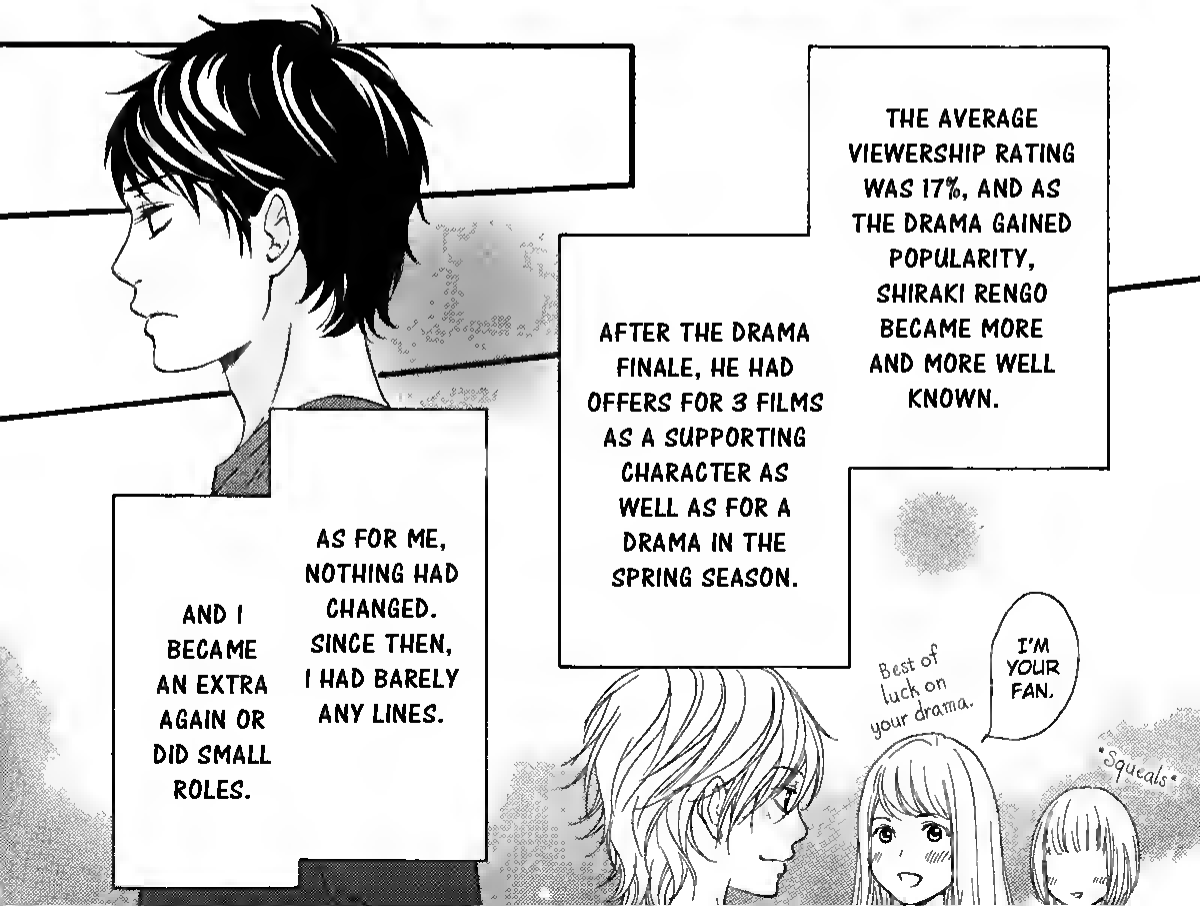
SOUNDS COOL
THEN I'LL KEEP "KAWA" AS WELL AND CHANGE "RIVER PHOENIX" TO "KAWA FUSHICHO" AND... I'LL SHORTEN "DAIKI" TO JUST "DAI"...
AND I WANT TO TAKE "GO" FROM "SHINGO" AND MAKE IT "SHIRAKI RENGO". THIS WAY YOU CAN STILL CALL ME GOCCHI.
I DO WANNA USE "HAKUMOKU REN" AFTER ALL.
OH MAGNOLIA HUH. YOU DID LIKE THAT MOVIE.
The scientific name for hakumoku ren
YUP, NOT BAD.
IT'LL BE "KAWATORI DAI"
I really am on the cast list... Though compared to Gocchi I'm listed near the end.
WOW
A WEEK AFTER WE SUBMITTED OUR NAMES TO OUR AGENCY,
THE DRAMA SCREENPLAY FOR EPISODE ONE ARRIVED.
"KAWATORI DAI" AND
"SHIRAKI RENGO"!

AFTER GOING TO THE COSTUME FITTING,
THE NEXT DAY, WE MEET THE CAST FOR THE FIRST TIME AND HAD A READ THROUGH.
THE STORY WAS ABOUT AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GIRL WHO ENDS UP TURNING INTO A HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER.
SHE WOULD DO THINGS LIKE HELPING SOLVE THE STUDENT'S PROBLEMS AND REFORMING THEM.
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY LINES MYSELF, SO I JUST WATCHED GOCCHI FROM AFAR.
ARE YOU LOST?
NO, I'M NOT LOST.
I'M A TEACHER AT THIS SCHOOL, DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME.
OKAY, TEACHER.
HIS UNIQUE RHYTHM FELT JUST RIGHT
AND IT WAS ONE OF GOCCHI'S TALENTS.

HE BEGAN TO GO TO FILMING BY HIMSELF MORE FREQUENTLY.
I CONSCIOUSLY STARTED TO INCREASE MY PART TIME JOB SHIFTS.
AND AFTER RECEIVING THE SCREENPLAY FOR EPISODE 7...
RIVA-CHAN, DID YOU READ THE SCREENPLAY !?
KNOCK
KNOCK
!?
I HAVE LINES!?
WHAT
RIGHT WHERE I LEAVE THE CLASSROOM.
CLICK
I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF READING IT.
GOOD TIMING. HURRY AND READ THE REST OF IT.
WHERE DID YOU READ UP TO!?

LET'S GIVE IT A TRY.
WHAT?
REALLY? I FEEL KINDA AWKWARD.
IF WE CAN'T EVEN DO IT NOW, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO DO IT THEN.
Come on!
Why do I have lines all of a sudden?
COULD THIS BE....
Isn't it interesting!?
WE HAVE A SCENE TOGETHER, JUST THE TWO OF US.
WHAT DO YOU WANT, DON'T FOLLOW ME.
IIKURA (ME) GOES OUT INTO THE HALLWAY AND WALKS OFF. HAYAMA (GOCCHI) COMES AFTER ME.
GIVE ME A BREAK.
DO IS SOMETHING YOU CAN ONLY DO NOW.
... ...
COME ON, LET'S GO BACK TO THE CLASS-ROOM.
DO YOU REALLY THINK I'M GONNA TAKE PART IN A SCHOOL PLAY?


AHAHA
AHAHAHA
My back hurts
fufu
RIVA-CHAN, I DON'T THINK I CAN HOLD IT IN WHEN WE FILM IT.
THIS IS SO EMBARRASS-ING.
GVFFAN


AND I BECAME AN EXTRA AGAIN OR DID SMALL ROLES.
AS FOR ME, NOTHING HAD CHANGED. SINCE THEN, I HAD BARELY ANY LINES.
AFTER THE DRAMA FINALE, HE HAD OFFERS FOR 3 FILMS AS A SUPPORTING CHARACTER AS WELL AS FOR A DRAMA IN THE SPRING SEASON.
THE AVERAGE VIEWERSHIP RATING WAS 17%, AND AS THE DRAMA GAINED POPULARITY, SHIRAKI RENGO BECAME MORE AND MORE WELL KNOWN.
Best of luck on your drama.
I'M YOUR FAN.
Squeals

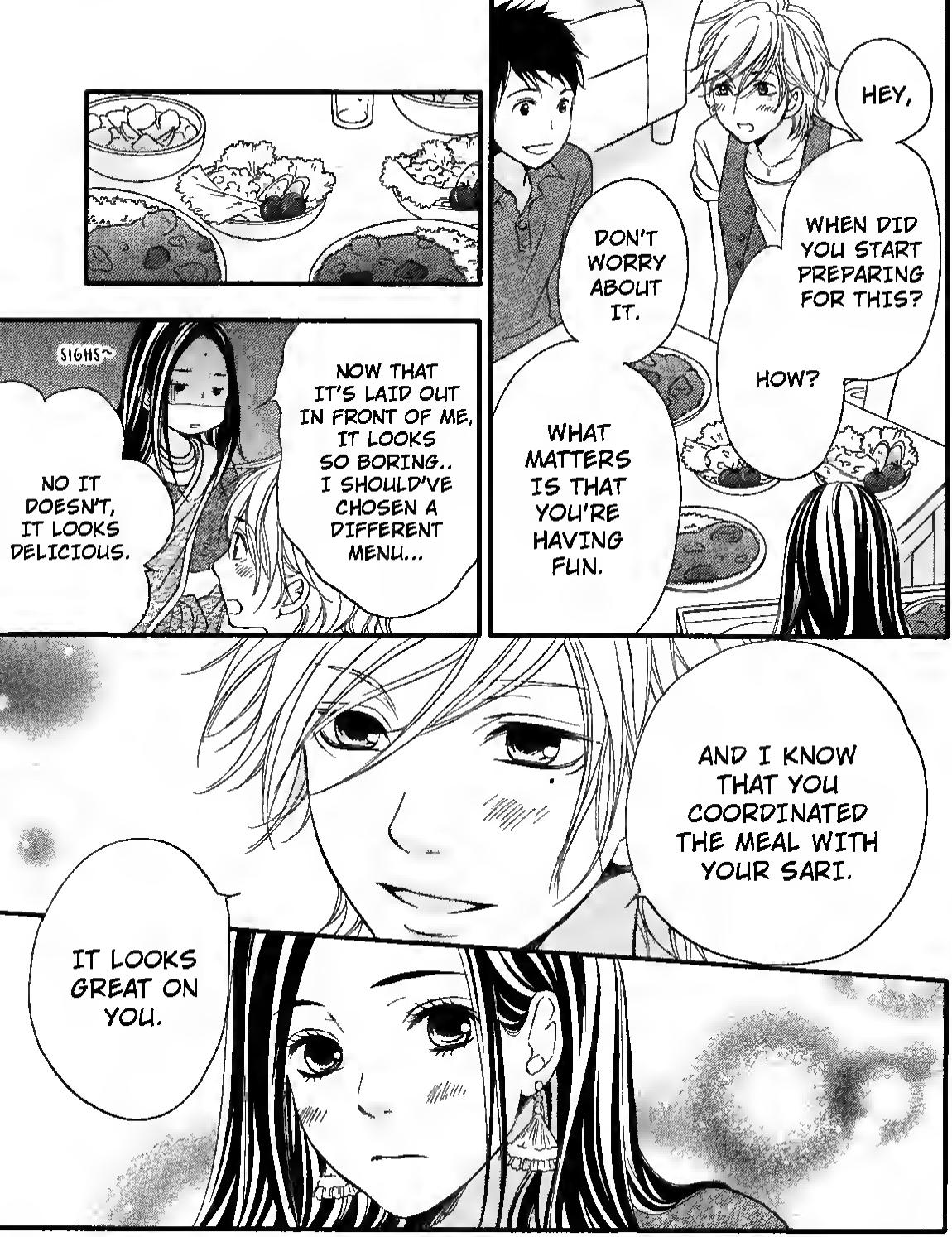
DING DONG
ISHIKAWA
I ACTUALLY WANTED TO TALK TO YOU, RIVA-CHAN.
SORRY, GOCCHI'S NOT HOME RIGHT NOW, I BARELY GET TO SEE HIM EITHER.
I SEE,
I DON'T GET TO SEE HIM IN PUBLIC THESE DAYS, HE'S SO FAMOUS NOW.
DO YOU WANT TO PLAN A BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR GOCCHI!?
NOT A BAD IDEA.
SINCE GOCCHI'S BEEN WORKING SO HARD,
THIS IS THE LEAST I CAN DO.

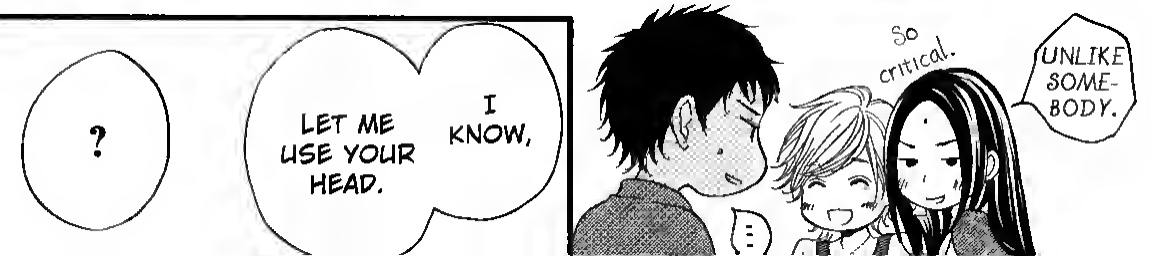
KOIDE-MIZU-SAN?
WHAT TIME IS GOCCHI WORKING TILL TODAY?
YES, I WANTED TO CELE-BRATE HIS 20TH BIRTHDAY.
IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU COULD GIVE ME A CALL WHEN HE'S FINISHED.
Ishikawa ordered that famous cake.
BEER, CHAMPAGNE, BALLOONS, AND PARTY POPPERS.
I GUESS THE ONLY THING LEFT IS PICKING UP THE CAKE.
ISHIKAWA, ARE YOU DONE DECORAT-ING?
CLICK
WOW ...!
AS EXPECTED OF AN ART STUDENT.
So fancy.
RIVA-CHAN

HA-DA
!?
HOW DO I LOOK?
HOW DOES IT LOOK... UM... YOU LOOK GOOD BUT..
?
?
?
...DON'T TELL ME YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS IS?
I KNOW
?
I WENT OUT OF THE WAY TO PREPARE FOR THIS, IT'S A SARI.
Geez
Sally
IDIOT
THIS IS CALLED A SARI.
It's a traditional Indian garment.
So disappointed

BUT
SORRY, I'M NOT REALLY KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT.
I see...
IT LOOKED GOOD ON HER AND SHE WAS REALLY PRETTY.
♪♪
ISHIKAWA! GOCCHI WILL BE HOME IN ABOUT 40 MINUTES.
We gotta hurry and get ready.
SERIOUSLY, THAT'S AN HOUR EARLIER THAN WE THOUGHT.
CLICK
I'M HOME.
RUSTLE
THUMP
RUSTLE
THUMP
FLICK
FLASH

POP
POP
POP
HAPPY BIRTH-DAY!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR 20TH BIRTHDAY!
POP
HAP
.....
THANKS
Go ahead, go ahead.
Um, I'm gonna go put this away in my room first.


HEY,
WHEN DID YOU START PREPARING FOR THIS?
HOW?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
WHAT MATTERS IS THAT YOU'RE HAVING FUN.
NOW THAT IT'S LAID OUT IN FRONT OF ME, IT LOOKS SO BORING.. I SHOULD'VE CHOSEN A DIFFERENT MENU...
SIGHS~
NO IT DOESN'T, IT LOOKS DELICIOUS.
AND I KNOW THAT YOU COORDINATED THE MEAL WITH YOUR SARI.
IT LOOKS GREAT ON YOU.


?
LET ME USE YOUR HEAD.
I KNOW,
So critical.
UNLIKE SOME-BODY.

SEE NOW IT'S LIKE WE'RE ON A MINI TRIP.
Towel turban
Cheers~
SO BITTER
YUCK
I COULDN'T CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY, RIVA-CHAN,
I'M SORRY.
Why are you used to drinking?
Yup yup
EVERYONE IS LIKE THAT AT FIRST, DON'T COMPLAIN AND JUST DRINK.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, YOU GAVE ME A KALEIDOSCOPE.
IT WAS MY VERY FIRST TIME SEEING SOMETHING LIKE THAT, THANKS.
A MONTH AFTER MY BIRTHDAY, I FOUND A PRESENT ON THE LIVING ROOM TABLE.
To Riva-chan.
Happy Birthday. Sorry for the belatedness. When I went to London...
THE STREAMS OF LIGHT CRISSCROSSED INSIDE THE KALEIDOSCOPE.
IT WAS MORE THAN ENOUGH FOR ME.
I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU, SOME MAGNOLIA CANDLES AND INCENSE.
IT'S NOT EXACTLY WHAT I HAD BEEN LOOKING FOR, BUT I WANTED TO GIVE YOU SOMETHING THAT MATCHED YOUR STAGE NAME.
THANKS

WOW, DID YOU REALLY DRAW THIS!?
!
OKAY MY TURN.
HERE
AND THIS IS FOR RIVA-CHAN.
FOR ME TOO?
THIS SEEMS MORE ROUGH-LY DRAWN THAN GOCCHI'S, DON'T YOU THINK?
YEAH, I RAN OUT OF TIME.
Ahaha
GIGGLE
30
THANK YOU
IS IT CROOKED?
NOPE

LOOKING BACK,
THAT DAY WAS A HAPPY ONE.
BUT WE WOULD NEVER RELIVE THOSE DAYS AGAIN,
AND NEVER WOULD WE OPEN THE CHAMPAGNE BOTTLE THAT WE HAD FORGOTTEN ABOUT THAT DAY.

IT WAS BECAUSE I WANTED TO CHANGE MY LIFE WITH MY OWN POWER RATHER THAN DEPENDING ON OTHERS.
BUT, I DECLINED EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM.
AS HE ESTABLISHED HIMSELF AS AN ACTOR, I WAS OFFERED ROLES AS HIS BARTER.
HE GOT EVEN BUSIER AND HE WAS CHOSEN AS THE LEAD FOR A DRAMA IN THE FALL SEASON.
BROOM
BROOM
CLICK
WELCOME HOME, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN HOME FOR 3 DAYS.
I LEFT A COPY OF MY NOTES ON YOUR DESK FOR YOU.
IF YOU HAVE ANY GARBAGE THAT YOU WANT ME TO TAKE OUT, CAN YOU GO GATHER IT?
...SURE
THANKS
ALRIGHT, I'M HEADING OFF TO ORK NOW.

SLAM
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
BUT DESPITE THAT, NO MATTER HOW HARD I WORKED, THE TYPES OF ROLES THAT I GOT DIDN'T CHANGE.
SHIVER
SO COLD
SINCE WE'LL BE MOVING BACK TO THE SHIBUYA CAMPUS STARTING 3RD YEAR, I GOTTA THINK ABOUT WHERE TO MOVE DURING SPRING BREAK.
YOU COME HOME AFTER A LONG TIME AND NOW YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A NEW PLACE?
SINCE THE PROPERTY VALUE IS GOING UP, I GUESS IT'LL HAVE TO BE A SMALLER AND OLDER PLACE.
BUT I'M SURE GOCCHI WILL UNDERSTAND.
I WAS UNDER A FALSE PRETENSE THINKING HE NEEDED ME.
HE'S REALLY BUSY, SO I THOUGHT I'D FIND A FEW GOOD PLACES.
IT SHOULD BE CLOSE TO SHIBUYA AND EASY TO GET TO WORK FROM... AND I GUESS IT SHOULD BE CLOSE TO ISHIKAWA'S PLACE.

AFTER RETURNING TO MY ROOM AFTER THREE DAYS, IT HAD CHANGED.
CLICK
BUT...
WHAT IS THIS...
34
To Riva-chan,
I rented out a place near school.
Next Tuesday the movers are
ing so...packed the importa
ings...please
NO, I HAVE TO TALK TO HIM DIRECTLY OR I CAN'T REALLY TAKE THIS ALL IN.
SHOULD I CALL TO ASK FOR AN EXPLANATION?
WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT?
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP

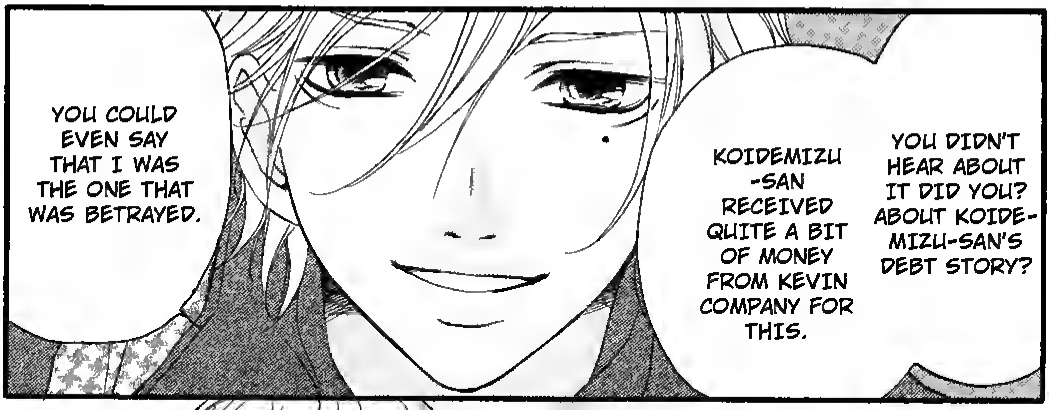
PRRR...
CLICK
KOIDEMIZU-SAN, SORRY FOR THE SUDDEN CALL.
WHEN DOES GOCCHI FINISH WORK TODAY?
IT'S UM...
HE'LL BE DONE SOON BUT... WHY, IS SOMETHING WRONG?
...I SEE. I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT HIM MOVING EITHER.
HAVE YOU NOT SEEN HIM FOR A WHILE?
THEN YOU PROBABLY WON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS TOO.
.....
HE'S CHANGING AGENCIES. HE'S MOVING TO KEVIN COMPANIES.
WHY?
I CAN'T TELL YOU THE DETAILS.
THUMP
A FAMOUS MAJOR TALENT AGENCY

THUMP
HE DIDN'T EVEN DISCUSS THIS WITH ME...
DOESN'T THIS CONCERN BOTH OF US?
SLAM
FLINCH
I JUST GOT HOME EARLIER.
THERE YOU ARE.
DID YOU START PACKING?
WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?
WHAT?
YOUR NEW PLACE
SORRY, ARE YOU MAD THAT I DECIDED ON IT ON MY OWN?

I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO, SO WHY DON'T WE TALK ABOUT IT NOW.
WE ARE TALKING ABOUT IT NOW!
NO
THAT'S FINE BUT YOU COULD'VE SAID SOMETHING.
37
I WAS LOOKING FOR A PLACE IN YUTENJI AS WELL.
...OH YOU WERE. BY ANY CHANCE ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THIS?
I APOLOGIZE FOR DECIDING ON MY OWN. BUT RIVA-CHAN, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN AROUND RECENTLY.
...FINE I GOT IT.

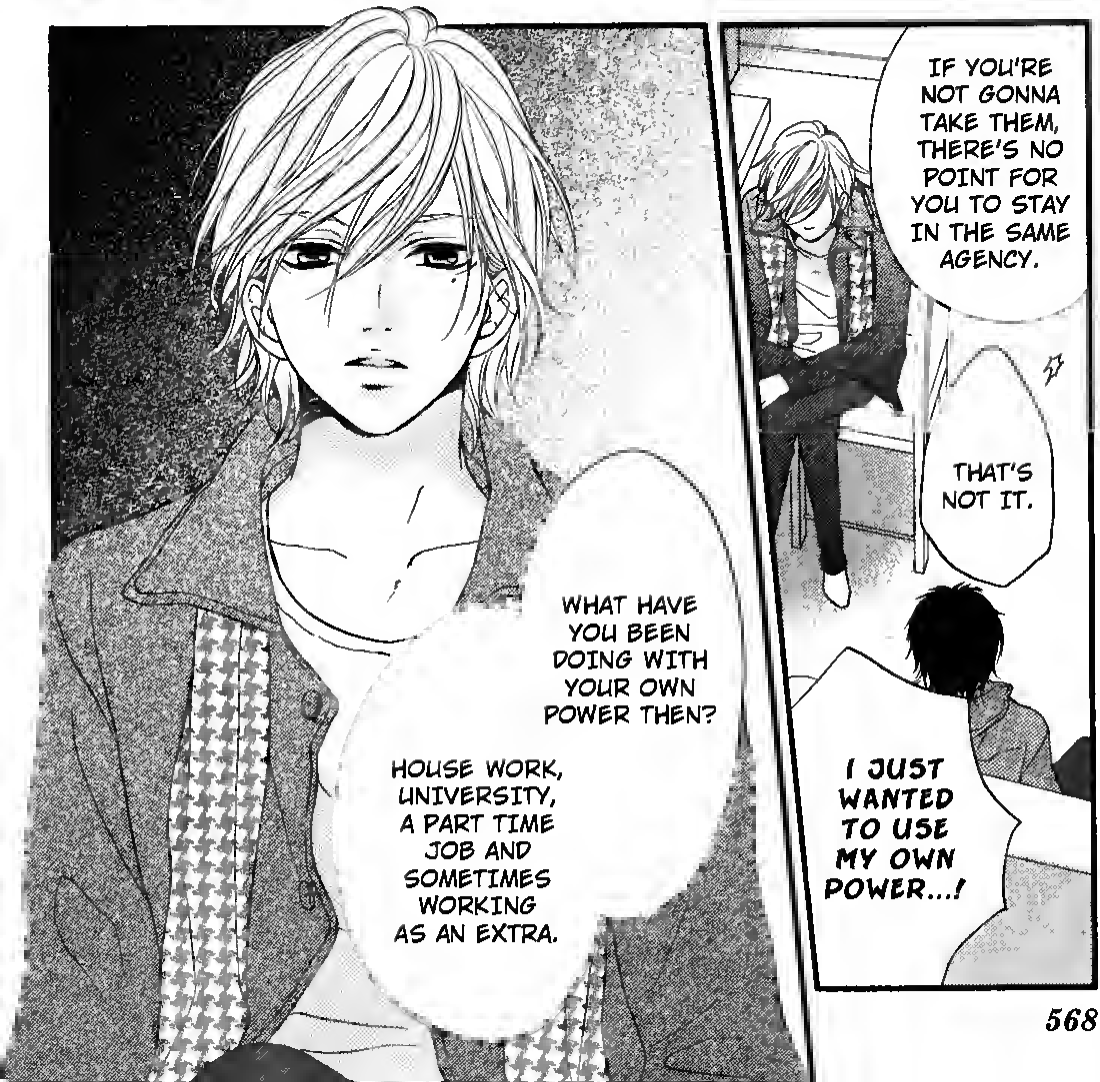
38
.....
THANKS, BUT I ALREADY SETTLED ON A NEW PLACE.
TO SCHOOL, IT'S 5 MINUTE BY FOOT.
67 SQUARE METERS. A NEW APARTMENT BUILDING. IT'S 430000 YEN A MONTH.
YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME.
ISN'T IT AMAZ-ING? IT'S LIKE A HOTEL.
I CAN'T AFFORD THAT AMOUNT. EVEN IF IT'S SPLIT IN HALF IT'S STILL 215000...
RIVA-CHAN YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY FOR IT.
AGENCY...
KEVIN COMPANY
MY AGENCY WILL PAY 200000 OF IT AND I'LL PAY THE REST. SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY ANYTHING.

WHY DID YOU CHANGE AGENCIES?
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT KEVIN COMPANY HERE. IT'S BETTER FOR ME AND I'LL GET MORE JOBS.
BUT YOU'RE BETRAYING KOIDEMIZU -SAN!


YOU DIDN'T HEAR ABOUT IT DID YOU? ABOUT KOIDEMIZU-SAN'S DEBT STORY?
KOIDEMIZU -SAN RECEIVED QUITE A BIT OF MONEY FROM KEVIN COMPANY FOR THIS.
YOU COULD EVEN SAY THAT I WAS THE ONE THAT WAS BETRAYED.

SO THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED...
BUT WHAT ABOUT...
WHAT?
ARE YOU GONNA SAY "WHAT ABOUT ME?"

RIVA-CHAN, YOU'VE TURNED DOWN OFFERS A FEW TIMES DIDN'T YOU?
I GOT YOU ALL THESE OFFERS BUT YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT TO BE MY BARTER.
I DID DECLINE.

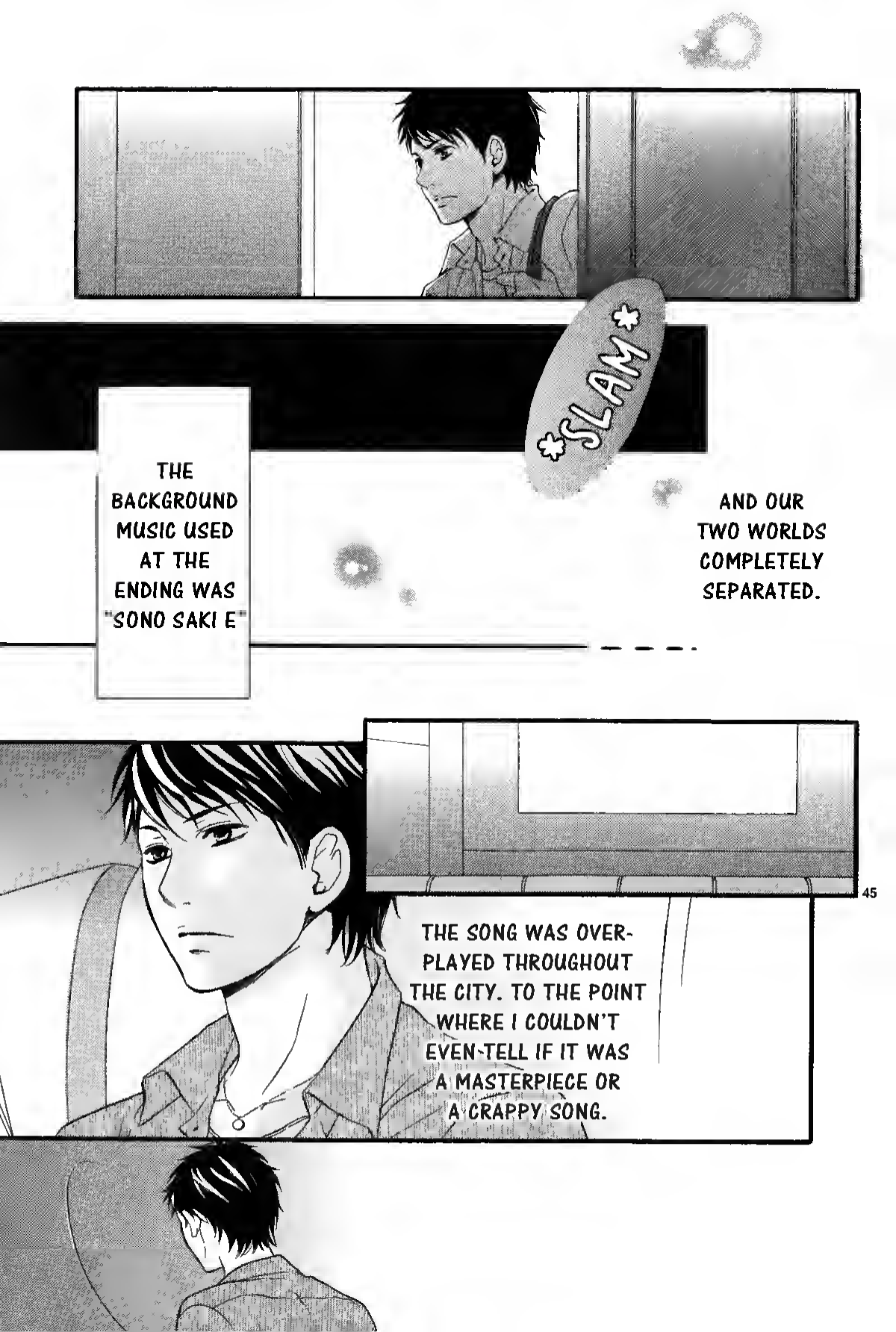

IF YOU'RE NOT GONNA TAKE THEM, THERE'S NO POINT FOR YOU TO STAY IN THE SAME AGENCY.
THAT'S NOT IT.
I JUST WANTED TO USE MY OWN POWER...!
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING WITH YOUR OWN POWER THEN?
HOUSE WORK, UNIVERSITY, A PART TIME JOB AND SOMETIMES WORKING AS AN EXTRA.

I CAN'T STAND TO JUST WATCH YOU ANY-MORE.
41
JUST DON'T THINK OF IT LIKE THAT.
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE THAT PLACE?
IF I DON'T PAY RENT THEN I'LL JUST BE YOUR HOUSE-KEEPER.
I THINK IT'S BETTER THAT WE RETURN OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE WAY IT WAS. SO I WAS THINKING OF LIVING WITH YOU AS A BEST FRIEND...
IF WE STAYED IN THE SAME AGENCY, WE'LL WORRY ABOUT EACH OTHER'S WORK, ESPECIAL-LY YOU RIVA-CHAN.

I WILL NOT LIVE THERE.
IT'S CLOSE TO MY AGENCY, WORK AND SCHOOL. PLUS THE SECURITY IS REALLY GOOD.
SECURITY...
OH YEAH, GOCCHI WAS A CELEBRITY NOW.
DOES ISHIKAWA KNOW ABOUT THIS?
I CAN'T LIVE WITH YOU RIGHT NOW.
I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO DIDN'T KNOW.
SHE KNOWS

I SEE...
TURNS
SLAM
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

I WENT HOME TO MY PARENT'S PLACE RIGHT AFTER.
2 WEEKS LATER, I WAITED UNTIL GOCCHI WAS OUT TO GET MY STUFF.
.....
THE TV AND SOFA WE SHARED TOGETHER.
I DON'T NEED THAT CHAMPAGNE WE BOUGHT TOGETHER ANYMORE.


SLAM
THE BACKGROUND MUSIC USED AT THE ENDING WAS "SONO SAKI E"
AND OUR TWO WORLDS COMPLETELY SEPARATED.
THE SONG WAS OVER-PLAYED THROUGHOUT THE CITY. TO THE POINT WHERE I COULDN'T EVEN TELL IF IT WAS A MASTERPIECE OR A CRAPPY SONG.

I'M HOME.
WELCOME HOME.
I LEFT YOUR MAILS ON YOUR DESK.
THANKS
YAMA GAKUIN HIGH SCHOOL CLASS REUNION
NNOUNCEMENT
THE TWO WILL FINALLY MEET AGAIN...!?
AND ONCE AGAIN,
OUR WORLD BEGAN TO COLLIDE...
TO BE CONTINUED...

CHAPTER 4
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